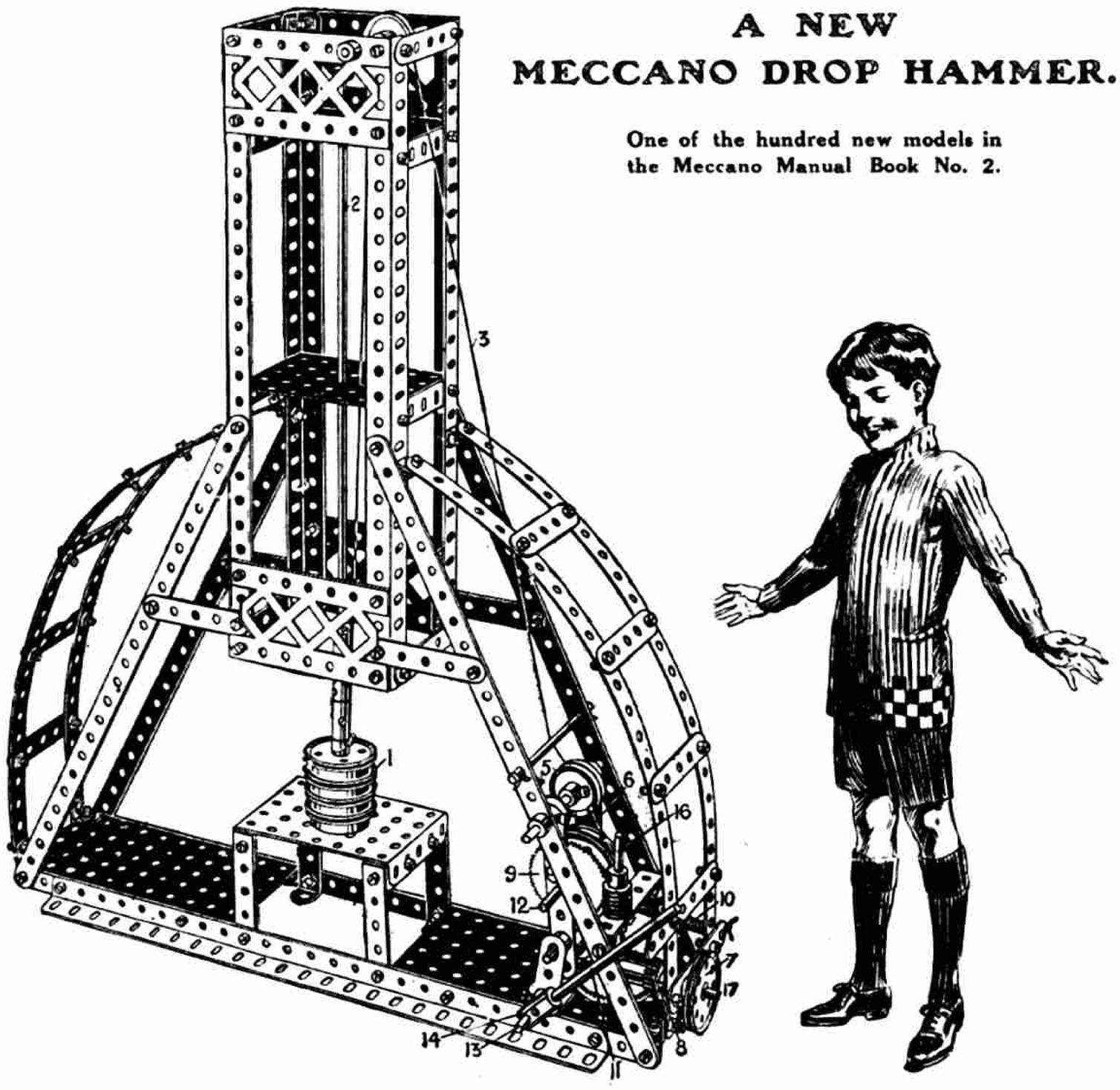
VOL. 1. No. 7 JULY—AUGUST, 1918.

MECCANO MAGAZINE

TO HELP MECCANO BOYS TO HAVE MORE FUN THAN OTHER BOYS

A NEW MECCANO DROP HAMMER.

One of the hundred new models in the Meccano Manual Book No. 2.



EDITORIAL.

Competition Results.

The difficulties of judging the Grand Meccano Competition this year have been greater than ever, as you boys will easily understand, but I am glad to be able to publish a list of prize-winners in this issue. The number of entries and the quality of the models sent in have been well up to the standard of past years and the competition has been an enormous success.

Difficulties in Producing the "M. M."

These are troublous times for everyone, and even editors get their fair share of worries. My greatest worry is shortage of paper, and this accounts for the delay in getting this issue out and for the limited number of copies which can be posted to you boys. I have many good things by me which you boys will read with keen interest, but these must be held over until we can publish the *M. M.* oftener, and perhaps make it bigger.

Results of Essay and Scientific Competitions.

I am sorry that there has been so much delay in announcing the results of these competitions, but this of course is due to the impossibility of getting this number of the *M. M.* out earlier. Both competitions have been wonderfully successful, and I hope to be able to publish the winning entries in our next issue.

Meccano Manual Book 2.

At last I am able to announce that Meccano Manual Book No. 2 will be ready on August 1st, and I think you will all agree that the new models which it contains are of extraordinary merit. The issue is limited, owing to paper difficulties, and I hope that every boy who reads this will get his copy without delay in order to prevent disappointment. The price is 1/3 from your dealer, or post free, 1/5½.

Shortage of Meccano.

Unfortunately Meccano will be more scarce than ever during the coming winter, owing to the greater portion of our plant being engaged on work for the Government. There will be a fair quantity available, however, and this will be rationed throughout the country in order to give each section a fair proportion. Let me advise readers of the *M. M.* to place their orders with their dealers early. The Meccano Spring Motor will not be on sale until after the war, when we shall at once resume its manufacture.

The Editor

The Life Story of Meccano

By Frank Hornby.

(*Continued.*)

On the whole, however, the Meccano system at that time was crude, and the outfits did not present a very attractive appearance. Still, the fact remained—and this gave me the greatest possible encouragement—that when a boy commenced to use the system and build up the models, he almost invariably took the greatest interest in his work and came back for more parts. This fact told me that *my system was right*, and that I had only to persevere in order to ultimately succeed. Those boys who possessed outfits asked their boy friends to come along and help them to build models, and these boys in turn began to buy outfits.

It was a very slow process, of course, and you may be sure that I had a very anxious time, but I continued almost daily to improve the finish and design of the parts and to increase the number of models. Every now and again I would issue a fresh manual, and this always gave a good fillip to the sales. Soon I began to do a little advertising, and this, of course, helped to increase the public demand for my outfits.

After a while the sales began to improve so much that I was able to induce one or two of the large stores in London to put up a special stand round Christmas time to demonstrate Meccano, and to have some one there to explain the models and the uses of the outfits. Immediately this was done the sales went up by leaps and bounds, and it was all that I could do to keep pace with the orders.

I began to experience difficulties in getting all the supplies of the various parts from the makers, and I commenced seriously to consider starting a little factory and making some of them myself. I made a few enquiries and finally hit on premises in Duke Street, Liverpool, which I thought I could convert into a workshop. I took a look over these premises quite recently, and they look tiny enough to me now, but, my goodness, boys, at that time they looked as big as the Crystal Palace, and I wondered if I should ever have enough machinery to fill them. I bought a few hand presses and one or two lathes, and a small gas engine, and, bit by bit, I began to build up my factory organization. Those were happy days, boys, and I look back on them with pride and pleasure, although every minute was fraught with difficulty and anxiety. I often had to complain of the finish and accuracy of the parts which I had had made for me, and the first resolution I made when I started my own factory was that nothing should come from it which was not of the best workmanship and finish. I have never swerved from that resolution, and to this I largely attribute the generous measure of praise and approval which Meccano has always received from expert engineers and mechanics. I knew that it was only by placing perfect Meccano parts in the hands of boys that they could build models which would work with true and mechanical accuracy and precision, and that it was only in this way that I could hope to establish my business on a sound basis.

To be continued.

RESULT OF THE Grand Meccano Competition.

A PERSONAL MESSAGE TO EACH COMPETITOR.

It is always a real pleasure to me to go through the entries in our big Meccano competitions, and this year has been no exception. There are not a large number of models of outstanding interest this year, but there is a uniformity of merit, which pleases me much better. It shows me that Meccano boys are becoming more and more skilful in model-building and in inventing, and the increased number of entries also shows me how the hobby is spreading both in this and other countries. I have been able to select a large number of very excellent movements, many of which are illustrated in our new Manual, Book No. 2. I strongly recommend you Meccano boys to get this fine new Manual at once. Other winning models are being perfected in our model-making department, and will appear in future editions of our Manuals. In fact, I may say that we have hundreds of new and beautiful models by us, ready for the new Manuals as soon as they can be issued, and all you boys should watch carefully for these.

You will readily understand, I feel sure, that the many difficulties created by the war have prevented us from making all the improvements which we should have liked, but our plans are well laid, and as soon as we are able to devote all our time and plant to the work, there will be some notable additions to Meccano which will add a hundred-fold to your enjoyment of model-building. Even during the war we have much progress to record. When I remind you that in 1914 our Manual of Instructions contained 133 models only, whereas now we show 425, each one a complete and perfect toy, I think you will admit that we have much to be proud of.

As I write, the Allied Armies are fighting with their backs to the wall against tremendous odds, and the future is full of anxiety. Meccano boys in this country, and in America, France, and Italy, are leagued together in a common bond of sympathy, with eyes turned towards the battle fronts, their hearts full of confidence in our brave soldiers and sailors, who are fighting in the most righteous cause which has ever confronted nations in the history of the world. Thousands of Meccano boys of all allied nationalities are fighting, or in some other way are taking their share in the great struggle, and my heart warms to them. Letters reach me daily from these boys full of good cheer and confidence, and it has been my happy lot to be able to lighten the dark days for many of them, and to cheer up many of the captive and wounded.

I wish I could tell you of the many ways in which Meccano has played its part in the great war, but this is a story which must wait until brighter days come and peace is restored. Within the last few days I have received a communication from an inventor who has just been paid £150 by one of the Allied Governments for an invention worked out with Meccano parts, and this is only one of many similar incidents.

Prizes have now been dispatched to the lucky winners in the Meccano Contest, and to all competitors, both winners and losers, I want to express my good wishes and to add the hope that I shall see their names again in future Meccano Competitions,

F. Hornby

Managing Director, Meccano Ltd.

LIST OF PRIZE WINNERS.

1st Cash Prize - - £50 0 0

Divided between two Competitors.

R. NEWTON, 65, Selwyn St., Leigh ..... *Spinning Mule*
J. YOXALL, 76, Carleton St., Nelson ..... *Dobby Loom*

2nd and 3rd Cash Prizes - - £35 0 0

Divided amongst four Competitors.

CHAS. TUSOLI, 13, Rue Ste. Hélène, Lyon ..... *Steam Hammer*
R. MCKENZIE, 210, Lincoln Rd., Brooklyn, N.Y. ..... *Subway Excavator*
E. C. HERBERT, 16, Harradon Rd., Aintree, Liverpool ..... *Coaler*
T. PARKES, 2, Gawber Rd., Barnsley ..... *Harmonograph*

4th Cash Prize - - £7 10 0

A. GRAWE, 10, Center St., Jamaica, N.Y. ..... *Car Unloader*

5th Cash Prize - - £5 0 0

P. HOYAUX, 6, Godfrey Rd., Newport, Mon. ..... *Testing Machine*

6th Cash Prize - - £2 10 0

L. BRUNET, 16, Rue Ste. Perpétue, Nimes ..... *Morse Typewriter*

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4 No. 5 MECCANO OUTFITS.

R. W. MERRICK, 3, Magdalen Rd., Bath ..... *Wire Testing Machine*
E. H. TOWER, 311, Broadway, New York City ..... *Battle Tank*
F. WHITE, 139, Victoria Rd., Aston, Birmingham ..... *Wire Covering Machine*
E. W. KIMBARK, 926, Michigan Ave., Evanston, Ill. ..... *Electric Fan*

6 No. 4 MECCANO OUTFITS.

A. JULLIEN, 9, Impasse des Changes, Chartres, Bure-et-Loire ..... *Crane*
K. HORNER, Trimmingham, Burnley Rd., Halifax ..... *Crimping Machine*
R. FIGGATT, 2,298, Creston Ave., Bronx. ..... *Stage Coach*
T. A. BALL, 26, W. 76th St., New York City ..... *Ten Ton Truck*
E. H. GOODYEAR, 7, Bright St., Darlington ..... *Spirograph*
M. LALOE, 32, Rue Thiers, Cherbourg ..... *Phonograph*

9 No. 2 MECCANO STORAGE CABINETS.

F. WHITE, 1, Cheltenham Villas, Stanley Rd., Croydon ..... *Eidograph*
F. YATES, 26, Market St., New Mills, Stockport ..... *Clay Treater*
F. PICKETT, 29, Bartlemas Rd., Oxford ..... *Typewriter*
E. H. BUCKINGHAM, School House, Frimley ..... *Target*
S. THOMAS, Cricklewood, King Edward St., Merthyr Tydfil ..... *Fretsaw*
C. F. LUMSDEN, Park View, Ross, Hereford ..... *Spillmaker*
G. J. GREENSMITH, 60, Crosby Rd., West Bridgford, Notts. ..... *Windspeed Measurer*
E. S. INCE, 32, Leighton Rd., West Ealing, London, W.13 ..... *Money Box*
W. B. GADD, "Edale," 115, Atwood Rd., Didsbury, Manchester ..... *Grip Tester*

LIST OF PRIZE WINNERS—Continued.

12 No. 3 MECCANO OUTFITS.

P. Bonifas, 12, Rue Lamarck, Paris ..... *Clock*
W. F. Ireland, "Clevedon," Hale Rd., Hale, Cheshire ..... *Boring Mill*
Dana Yung Kwai, 3,312, Highland Ave., Washington, D.C. .... *Disappearing Gun*
Neal Dow, 17, Lincoln St., Exeter, N.H. ..... *Coast Defence Gun*
E. G. Burton, Impington Farm, Histon, Cambs. ..... *Drilling Machine*
F. Dergint, 2, Rue Boulard, Paris. ..... *Copiograph*
H. Payan, 14, Rue Paixhans, Oran, Algeria ..... *Gyroscope*
M. Graham, Hollingden, Woldingham, Surrey ..... *Weighing Machine*
A. Pux, 54, Rue Madame, Paris. ..... *Metronome*
C. Collins, 1,021, E. 49 Place, Los Angeles, Cal. ..... *Submarine Chaser*
J. Verlinden, 27, Rue Germain, Lyon, Rhone. ..... *Sewing Machine*
L. B. Emery, 928, Hoyt Ave., Saginaw, Mich. ..... *Red Cross Wagon*

12 No. 1 MECCANO STORAGE CABINETS.

G. Carter, 45, Taylor St., Blackburn ..... *Flying Boats*
W. Land, Bank Buildings, East St., Coggeshall. ..... *Milling Machine*
L. C. Norris, 70, Disraeli Rd., Forest Gate, London, E. ..... *Platen Machine*
G. Barrows, 10, Stones Rd., Epsom. ..... *Revolving Swing*
J. Pickin, Earlsdon Ave., Coventry ..... *Monoplane*
C. J. Parr, 45, Hazelbank Rd., Catford, London, S.E. ..... *Seaplane*
L. M. Harris, Morfa Lodge, Eddisbury Rd., West Kirby, Cheshire .... *Monoplane*
F. Boothroyd, T.Z 11,472, H.M.T. Wm. Symons, Larne Harbour, Ireland *Morse Key*
W. E. Wright, 23, Checketts Rd., Belgrave, Leicester ..... *Breast Drill*
Iris Fenwick, 71, Thornhill Rd., Handsworth, Birmingham. ..... *Bead Loom*
N. Barnard, Thorpe, St. James Rd., Sutton, Surrey ..... *Caterpillar Tractor*
S. S. Hall, "Glendon," College Rd., Epsom. ..... *Gun Wiring Lathe*

18 No. 2 MECCANO OUTFITS.

G. de Chamberet, 9, Rue de Prony, Paris. ..... *Circular Saw*
R. Jenné, Pont de Gland, Audincourt, Doubs. ..... *Planer*
F. Fuller, 6023, Winthrop Ave., Chicago, Ill. ... *Suggested Improvements for Meccano*
A. R. Thomas, 32, Drayton Rd., London, W.13. ..... *Motor Plough*
J. J. Pierse, Bishop's Court, Lixnaw, Co. Kerry ..... *Hydrostatic Balance*
W. Clarke, 69, Nasmyth St., Hammersmith, London, W. ..... *Scales*
R. Galloun, 16, Rue Rambuteau, Paris. ..... *Machine Gun*
R. Nové, 66, Rue de la Charité, Lyon. ..... *Schlitteur*
B. Young, 11, North Ave., Leicester ..... *Improvements in Meccano Parts*
H. L. Kneen, Emmetsburg, Iowa ..... *Drilling Machine*
J. Becker, 205, Ward Ave., Tomkinsville, N.Y. ..... *Panama Steam Shovel*
H. Schaller, Sinsinawa, Wisc. ..... *Automatic Loading Bomb Thrower*
C. Griffiths, 18, Fortune Green Rd., West Hampstead, London, N.W. *Adding Machine*
J. Perret, 3a, Place d'Armes, La Chaux-de-Fonds, Switz. ... *Match Box Distributor*
P. Larbalestier, 1, Melrose Ave., Kirkdale, Liverpool ..... *Grain Elevator*
P. Bruneau, 123, Rue de Sèze, Lyon, Rhone. ..... *Balanced Bicycle*
J. Leroi, Rue des Orfévres, Blois, Loir-et-Cher. ..... *Plough*
J. Fabre, Institution Ste. Marie, La Seyne, Var. ..... *Hydrocycle*

24 MECCANO WATER MOTORS.

A. Holmes, 11, Lester Rd., Chatham. ..... *Copying Machine*
S. Durkan, 61, South St., Reading. ..... *Single-needle Telegraph Instrument*
R. V. Sturgess, 9, Coldharbour, Wendover. ..... *Distance Indicator*
E. Mason, 134, Manchester Rd., Denton, Manchester. ..... *Grain Elevator*
W. R. Trout, 1, Beevor St., New Boultham, Lincoln. ..... *Electrical Jib Crane*
M. B. Cross, 26, Biddulph Mansions, Elgin Ave., Maida Vale, London *Electric Travelling Crane*
T. Rignall, 3, Tatton Rd. N., Heaton Moor, Stockport ..... *Tipping Wagon*
F. Henderson, 66, St. George Rd., Bellevue, Johannesburg, S. Africa *Two-Stamp Battery*
E. H. Jones, 106, Cheadle Old Rd., Edgeley, Stockport. ..... *Automatic Hammer*
P. N. Anson, Meadow Hurst, Slinfold, Sussex ..... *Transport Bridge*
W. Daltry, 8, Malby St., Oldham. ..... *Drilling Machine*
B. Shimwell, 86, Normandy Ave., High Barnet. ..... *Boat Windlass*
R. C. Temple, Prospect House, 85, Leigh Hill, Leigh-on-Sea. ..... *Gangway*
J. Rogers, 2, College Grounds, Malvern ..... *Weighing Machine*
R. Hurst, 117, Arthur St., Birkenhead. ..... *Shipyard Bogey*
L. Riley, 208, Horsedge St., Oldham. ..... *Reeling Machine*
S. Martin, 18, Avon Rd., Upper Walthamstow, London, E. *Shell Riveting Machine*
A. F. Howard, 17, Priory St., Bedford. ..... *Portable Hand Crane*
A. W. Jones, 15, Garage Cubicles, Graham White Aviation Co., Hendon *Reversing Gear Box*
C. R. Booth, Mill Cottages, Barnham, Near Bognor. ..... *Calf Cart*
G. E. Hobson, 7, Reddish Vale Rd., Reddish, Stockport .... *Auto Weighing Machine*
J. Northcott, 32, Bulstrode Rd., Hounslow, Middlesex ..... *Searchlight*
A. P. Jamieson, 26a, Castle St., Carlisle. ..... *Tobacco Cutter*
A. Stradling, 25, Jubilee St., Burnham-on-Sea ..... *Book Rest*

18 No. 1 MECCANO OUTFITS.

B. Gardner, Mt. Carmel, Utah, U.S.A. ..... *Jig Dancer*
T. J. Kauffeld, 47, Fort Washington Ave., New York City ..... *Battle Tank*
A. Cavanagh, 102, Mozart St., Lodge Lane, Liverpool. ..... *Spring Winder*
L. Baird, 36, Barbourne Rd., Worcester ..... *Sulky and Driver*
B. Hondous, Rue de Torcay, Dreux, Eure-et-Loire. ..... *Salt Barometer*
F. Maillé, 103, Avenue Carnott, Parc St., Maur, Seine. *Extending Candle Bracket*
A. H. Tidmus, 4, Esme Rd., Sparkhill, Birmingham. *Market Gardener's Truck*
H. Hardie, 4,702, Chichester Ave., Richmond Hill, S.I., N.Y. .... *Anti-Aircraft Gun*
G. Stultz, 2,327, Walton Ave., Bronx. ..... *Sea Crawler*
E. W. Smith, 53, Clifton Rd., Southport. ..... *Station Cart*
F. and L. Brunet, 14, Rue Ste. Perpetué, Nimes, Gard. *Improvements in Meccano Parts*
W. L. Jepson, 606, Halsey St., Brooklyn, N.Y. ..... *Auto Delivery Truck*
C. R. Grabfield, 4,611, Grand Boulevard, Chicago ..... *Tank with Electric Motor*
R. Rowland, "Glenview," Wicklow, Ireland ..... *Vacuum Pump*
R. Thomas, 3, King Edward Villas, Merthyr Tydfil. ..... *Fire Stand*
M. J. Despouches, Villa Roche-Close, Chamalières, Puy-de-Dome .... *Winged Rooster*
J. Couraud, 130, Chemin de Pessac, Bordeaux, Gironde. ..... *Mechanical Horse*
R. Roden, 86, Wharf St., Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent. ..... *Vegetable Chopper*

24 No. 0 MECCANO OUTFITS.

P. Turquet, 14, Place Saint Venerand, Laval Mayenne. ..... *Turning Bridge*
P. Barnard, Dockham Rd., Cinderford, Glos. ..... *Settee*
R. Emerson, 3, Cawston Rd., Pitsmoor, Sheffield ..... *Chair for Wounded Soldiers*
Kammerer, 24bis., Ave. des Lumières, Arcueil, Cachan Seine ... *Aerial Telegraph*
J. Choulet, 21, Ave. Flachat, Asnières, Seine ..... *Baby Carriage*
N. Klein, 353, Gardner Ave., Mt. Vernon, N.Y. ..... *Meccano Racer*
P. Fry, Oak Lane, Philadelphia, Pa. ..... *Motor Car Chassis*
A. W. Bamford, 42, Ryhall Rd., Stamford .. *Suggestions for Improvements in Meccano*
R. Gunther, 851, Fullerton Ave., Chicago. ..... *Military Defence Gun*
G. Boursier, 28, Rue de Lyon, Paris. ..... *Drill*
R. Jensen, 60, Rue de Verneuil, Paris. ..... *Balance*
H. Boulogne, 27, Rue Baudin, Paris. ..... *Target*
B. Hutchinson, Ault Hucknall, Rowthorn, Chesterfield ..... *Stretcher*
D. C. Ramsden, 257, Hyde Park Rd., Leeds ..... *Ellipsograph*
A. H. Tidmus, 4, Esme Rd., Sparkhill, Birmingham ..... *Turnstile*
Enrico Erni, Via Nazionale 30, Livorno, Italy ..... *Crane*
E. Lewer, 32, Gascony Ave., W. Hampstead, London ..... *Sighting Rule*
C. Lewis, 1,120, Park Ave., Utica, N.Y. ..... *Cableway*
W. E. Shenk, 232, W. 21st St., Erie, Pa. ..... *Lighthouse*
P. J. Elsey, Willard, Utah ..... *Marble Scenic Railway*
H. Worthington, Incheluim, Washington ..... *Treadle Grindstone*
J. Eustache, 8, Rue Gambetta, Pont Audemar, Eure. ..... *Bobinoir*
R. B. Parsons, Old Forge, N.Y. ..... *Yarn Winder*
D. C. Hansen, 115, Spring Bank, Hull. ..... *Electric Navvy*

OUR MAIL BAG

The Editor has a little talk in this column with his Meccano boys. Whether he has space to reply to them all here or not, he is always glad to hear from them. He receives hundreds of letters each day, and only those which deal with matters which are likely to interest other Meccano boys can be dealt with here.

Correspondents will help the Editor if they will write on one side of the paper only.

R. & F. Cutting, Shepherd's Bush.—Sorry we have been so long in replying to you, but space is very limited. Drawing hardly suitable, but try again. We may find room for your acrostic later.

A. B. Eaton, B.E.F., France.—It makes us happy to know that the *Meccano Magazine* is so well known and liked amongst the boys at the Front. There are thousands of Meccano boys doing their bit. We wish you a safe and speedy return.

N. Bishop, Muswell Hill.—We are pleased to know our poem "It can be done" inspired you to complete your new model, after feeling so discouraged. We put little things of this kind in the *Meccano Magazine* now and again, mostly the thoughts of some of the world's finest brains, and we sometimes wonder if Meccano boys read and enjoy them.

F. Andrews, Alvechurch.—It interests us to know that you and another Meccano boy were the only ones to gain first-class honours in your district in the Oxford Junior, and that it was mainly through Meccano that you were induced to take up engineering as a profession. We should like to have your opinion of the experiments in Applied Mechanics in our No. 2 Manual. Thanks for your suggestion, which will be considered.

J. A. Jaggers, Walthamstow.—We should much have liked to see the models of the Inclined Plane and Block and Tackle which you made for your teacher, and we can quite understand that the boys of your class found them interesting. We hope you will build all the new Scientific Examples in the No. 2 Manual. We agree with you about the German peace terms.

A. Snook, Greenock.—That was a tough experience you had in your air raid. We are sorry your house was destroyed and you were so much damaged. You seem to regret the loss of your Meccano Outfit most, but we hope that it was recovered from the ruins. We trust you are all right again now.

J. Irvine.—Our mail bag is full every morning, but we have had it enlarged again, and there is room for more letters from you. You may find your clever little sketch reproduced in the *Meccano Magazine* some day.

W. Anderson, Beith.—"My sister is learning the violin and required a music stand. I constructed one in an hour from my Meccano Outfit, but I am now in a fix because she will not let me take it to pieces." That's a bit rough on you, William, but we hope you succeeded in persuading her to buy you a new outfit.

W. Jones, Handsworth.—"I should like to add my appreciation of your Meccano. It has been a great source of delight and instruction to my little boy, who is only 6½. The only thing he insists upon is "Hands off, Dad—I can do it myself." This is just that spirit of independence and initiative which Meccano cultivates so strongly in boys, and which does so much to strengthen their characters. We hope Tudor himself will write to us soon.

J. B. Hartley, Barnard Castle.—"My only regret is that I can't sit up all night and make models, for now I have got nearly everything in connection with Meccano. I got a No. 5A from Dad, and a Meccano table specially built and filled with drawers to keep the parts in from my Mother. I have also got a Spring Motor and an Inventor's Outfit." You are a very lucky boy, Blair, to have parents so anxious and able to help you. It pleases us to know that you all think so highly of Meccano.

Billy Mountney, Hulme.—"Vice-President of the Cornbrook Meccano Club" sounds very fine, Billy. We are glad to know that you are all "Meccano mad" and that your Club is progressing wonderfully. We may start the Club which you suggest some day.

Cyril Grange, March, Cambs.—"I can hardly find words good enough to express the excellent qualities of Meccano. It is the grandest cure for the blues, it prevents anyone from being done brown and puts us all in the pink, so that you are a green'un no longer." Which brings a rosy red blush to our cheek, Cyril.

L. Prideaux, Camborne.—"Don't you think Meccano boys should have a little badge with the word 'Meccano' on it?" Of course they should, Leonard, and what is more they are going to have the neatest thing you ever saw in this line, as soon as we can get them made.

Norman Colclough, Hanley.—How is your Meccano Club progressing? How many members have you now, and how often do you meet?

Cecil Hartshorn, Thurmaston.—"I have been a Meccano boy for four years. I can ride a motor cycle, play the piano, and take photographs. I am making a model mouse trap and if I catch anything in it I shall send it in for competition." We shall not be in when the animal arrives, Cecil. Better send a photograph or sketch. For so young a boy, yours is a good range of accomplishments.

Francis Brown, Everton.—"The Onaccem Seven" sounds like a secret society of some kind, but it looks peaceful enough when the mysterious middle word is reversed. You seem to be a very happy gang of friends, and we hope your numbers will increase. Thanks for particulars of your new Meccano model, which you call "The Opera."

J. T. G. Macleod, Ealing.—Glad you find Meccano a cure for the "funny feeling down below" as your father calls it, when the air raids are on. As you surmise, we are findihg much difficulty in publishing the *Meccano Magazine* regularly, but we believe we shall be able to hold on right to the end of the war.

Maudie Roessler, Westcliff-on-Sea.—It pleases us to know that your invalid brother gets so much pleasure from Meccano and the *Meccano Magazine*. Give Ernie our best wishes, and tell him we hope to often hear how he is progressing.

Herbert Matthews, New Southgate.—What is "Meccano Dibetus," Herbert, and why does your sister say you have got it? Thanks for interesting account of air raids on your town.

G. V. H. Garnett, Otford:—

Said Father to his little boy:
"Which do you think you'd like—
A big Meccano Outfit
Or a brand new motor bike?"
The son right quickly answered—
"Meccano! Daddy, please,
For that includes a motor bike
As well as all of these."

Quite a nice little effort, and we are sorry space will not allow us to print it all.

J. Bernard Pim, Chaplain R.N., H.M.S. Dido.—"We are getting the greatest pleasure out of the Meccano Outfit, and the owners of it are envied by all the other members of the mess, who crowd round with delight to watch the progress of the models." We read your letter with much pleasure. The *Meccano Magazine* will be sent to you regularly.

F. Cornwell, London.—Thanks for your interesting letter about the air raids. Your cousin, Jack Cornwell, was a hero, and you have every reason to be proud of him.

John Clark, Jr., Leith.—"A chum and I built a Meccano Tank. My grandfather displayed it in his shop with a notice on top:—Julien Jr. Collecting Subscriptions for Prisoners of War Fund."—We raised £2. 15s. 0d." Quite a good idea, which, as you suggest, might well be followed by other Meccano boys.

Private J. A. Dean, Gt. Ormesby.—Thanks for your letter with sketches showing how you ingeniously built rolling, lift, girder, swing, suspension and viaduct bridges with Meccano. Now that you are back home we hope you will resume Meccano model-building.

R. Royle, Leigh:—

"Little Jack Horner
Sat in a corner
The happiest boy ever seen
He had no Christmas pie,
But he'd got on the sly,
Meccano, which filled him with glee."

And now we expect to have all the old nursery rhymes rewritten by Meccano boys and girls. Any boy who, sends in a good one will hear of something to his advantage.

White, Stickler & Rundle, Bristol.—"In our Meccano Club we make speeches, discuss manuals, magazines and separate parts." We hope none of your members have had to be "jacked out" and that the "no fighting rule" is not really necessary.

John Preston, Grahamstown, S.A.—"I wonder if you would care to hear from a Meccano boy in South Africa?" We should just think we would. We hope you will realize your ambition and become a successful civil engineer; but first of all you must get thoroughly well, so that you won't have to stay away from school. Please write us often.

How to get the Meccano Magazine Regularly

Under the new Government regulations we are unable to send the "Meccano Magazine" to any one except those who directly apply to us for it. If, therefore, you wish to become a reader of the M.M. it will be necessary for you to forward to us a request for it to be sent to you regularly, accompanied by 2d. in stamps for postage on the next four issues. A double subscription of 4d. will, of course, ensure the next eight numbers being sent to you.

Competition Results.

In the competition for the best essay on "How I came to take up Meccano as a Hobby," the first prize of a Meccano Inventor's Accessory Outfit goes to Master Geo. C. Taylor, 6, Oswald Street, Amble, Northumberland, and a consolation prize of a Water Motor is awarded to Master Harold Cocking, Carisbrooke, Warwick Road, Worthing. This competition has been a most successful one, there being close upon one thousand entries. Lack of space prevents us from publishing the winning essays in this issue, but we hope to be able to print them in the next number of the "M.M."

In the competition for the best essay on "The Meccano Model I like best, and why," the first prize of a Meccano Inventor's Accessory Outfit goes to Master Samuel Sumnall, 293, High Street, Alsagers Bank, Nr. Newcastle, Staffs., and a consolation prize of a Meccano Water Motor goes to Master Jack E. Hawkins, 150, Widdrington Road, Coventry. This competition was also most successful, and I am quite sure that all Meccano boys will enjoy reading the winning essays in the next issue of the "M.M."

In the Meccanograph Competition for the best set of 12 designs, the first prize of a No. 1 Meccano Storage Cabinet goes to Master Jack Plowright, 20, Brompton Ave., Liscard, Ches., for a very fine series in coloured inks, and a further special prize of a Meccano Water Motor is awarded to Master Jas. A. Broadbent, 33, Boston St., Sowerby Bridge, for a set of very neat and clever designs.

The Meccano Scientific Competition has produced a number of very excellent models, and has been a most gratifying success. We may mention that we have recently run a similar competition in France, which has produced a number of fine scientific models which compare very favourably with the efforts of the British Meccano boys. In future numbers of the "M.M." we shall reproduce the winning models in both competitions, so that all Meccano boys may have an opportunity of building them for themselves.

The first prize of a No. 5 Meccano Outfit is awarded to Mr. Thos. Parkes, 2, Gawber Road, Barnsley, Yorks. The second prize, a No. 4 Outfit, is awarded to Master G. G. Jacob, 35, Conduit Road, Bedford, and the third prize, a No. 3 Outfit, is awarded to Master Wm. P. R. Parker, Ardmohr West, Kilcreggan, Dumbarton. Additional prizes have also been awarded to Masters P. E. Austin, Grosvenor House, Grosvenor Road, St. Albans, N. Daglishe, 91, Cartsworth Road, Gateshead-on-Tyne, J. Barber, 200, Chapel Road, Hollinwood, Oldham, and J. Price, 14, Heron Street, Pendlebury, Manchester.

Prices of Meccano

No.			
0	Outfit with full instructions for building		5/6
1	do.	do.	9/-
2	do.	do.	16/6
3	do.	do.	25/-
4	do.	do.	42/-
5	do.	do.	57/6
6	do.	do.	145/-

No. 6 in well-finished cabinet with lock and key.

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No.							
0a	converting a	No. 0	into a	No. 1	..	4/-
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5a	do.	do.	5	do.	6	..	50/-

Each Meccano outfit is complete with all parts and tools necessary for building models. Full instructions are included and the youngest boy can commence to build at once without study. An accessory outfit may be purchased at any time enabling bigger and more interesting models to be built. Additional parts may also be purchased separately, at prices given in our published lists.

Remember that though boys play with Meccano for pleasure, and though they get more genuine fun from it than from any other toy, it also gives them a sound knowledge of engineering. Through playing with Meccano, many a bright boy has been started on a prosperous career in one of the most important and profitable professions—engineering and mechanics.

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